

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY'S  
CENTENNIAL YEAR

**HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the following resolution recognizing the beginning of Northeastern University's centennial year.

Initially, founded in 1898 in a few rooms at the Y.M.C.A. in Boston, Northeastern University is now a national research institution enrolling more than 11,000 undergraduates, 5,000 graduate students, and 10,000 part-time students in seven colleges and nine graduate and professional schools. It offers a variety of educational programs including nursing, pharmacy, health sciences, business, computer science, engineering, liberal arts, and sciences.

Northeastern University holds a special place in the heart of Boston and in the higher education community. The university was initially created to provide educational opportunity for working families in Boston and its surrounding towns, and has remained fully committed to that mission as it has developed into a world-class research university. Today, the school boasts of its reputation for a top-notch faculty and it attracts students from across the United States and dozens of other countries.

Northeastern University developed an innovative model of cooperative education that is practical in today's workplace. Throughout their schooling, students combine their classroom instruction with on-the-job experience. Cooperative education has enabled Northeastern students to gain practical experience and job skills, thus giving them an edge over other recent college graduates.

Northeastern University has never forgotten its roots. It is deeply committed to its original purpose and it continuously reaches out to its surrounding communities by helping to prepare middle- and high-school students for college. In addition to providing health care services for children and families, and scholarships for hard-working students, the university generates innovative housing and economic development proposals to improve the quality of city life.

Northeastern University's 100 experience years of worthy of congressional and national acclaim.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHAEL  
BUSE

**HON. JACK METCALF**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Michael Buse of Stanwood, WA, who was selected as the winner of the 1997 Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest for Washington State.

His essay "Democracy—Above and Beyond" compares American democracy to an eagle perched for flight as we look into the new millennium. American democracy soars above and beyond all other forms of govern-

ment. He concludes that it is our duty to go above and beyond as citizens to preserve and protect our form of democracy.

I would like to congratulate Michael again for his success in this program and thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars for their support of America's youth. I ask unanimous consent that Michael's award-winning essay be included in the RECORD:

"DEMOCRACY—ABOVE AND BEYOND"

Like an eagle perched for flight, American Democracy stands ready, looking into the twenty-first century; a new millennium. As it spreads its wings and gazes over the Earth, American Democracy soars above and beyond all other forms of government.

Why? Perhaps it is because our democracy is above indifference to the wants, needs, and wishes of its citizens. Our democracy is run for, of, and by its people. American Democracy is beyond the control of a single despot or a celebrated few.

Our democracy is founded on the idea that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary individuals. Abe Lincoln, our sixteenth President, comes to mind as a young man who rose from the depths of poverty to become perhaps the greatest President our country has ever known. His example—and a number of others—have proven repeatedly that no matter how humbly a child is born, he or she has a chance to engage the minds and capture the imaginations of our whole country. Our democracy is above and beyond all others simply because we have a chance. Under American Democracy we may do as we please, as long as we remain responsible citizens.

The beauty of American Democracy is that we all—man or woman, rich or poor, of whatever race, creed, or religion, have value and are valued. General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, "Hero of the Little Round Top", addressing his soldiers before the Battle of Gettysburg explained the notion of American Democracy by saying, "It's not the land, there's always more land, it's the idea that we all have value."

Today, our American Democracy is the wealthiest, most powerful and freest nation on Earth. Our people are free to criticize their leaders and to elect new ones. We have freedom of the press, religion, and speech. We are free from unjustified arrest by police and have the right to trial by a jury of our peers. Our system of Democracy, as laid out originally in the Constitution and Bill of Rights, was not perfect, but our forefathers anticipated the future, and insured us the power of amendment, which has allowed us over time to continue to work for civil rights for all of our people. Perhaps that is why the world looks to American Democracy as a model. Of the 191 nations listed in the World Almanac, 167 have written constitutions that were either influenced by or modeled after American Democracy.

In a speech delivered to the U.S. Congress, Vaclav Havel, President of the newly formed Czech Republic, asked: "Wasn't it the best minds of your country who wrote your famous Constitution and Bill of Human Rights? Those great documents which insure American Democracy inspire the world. They inspire us to be citizens."

As participants in what George Washington called the "great experiment of American Democracy" it is our duty to go above and beyond as citizens to preserve and protect our form of Democracy.

IN MEMORY OF RAY PEELER

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 9, 1997*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Ray Peeler, Jr., whose death on June 26 at the age of 68 marked a great loss for the city of Bonham, TX. Ray was a popular local attorney, banker, and community leader. He also was a loyal Democrat whose close friends included the late President Lyndon Baines Johnson and the late Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Sam Rayburn. For many years Speaker Rayburn kept his local office on the third floor of the Peeler Building on the Bonham Square.

Ray was the third generation of his family to live in Fannin County. He graduated coaledictorian from Bonham High School, received his B.A. with high honors from the University of Texas at Austin and his L.L.B. in 1951. He served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 to 1953 during the Korean conflict.

He returned to Bonham, where he began his practice of law in 1953 and served as district and county attorney from 1960 to 1961. He was a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, and served as vice president of the State Jr. Bar of Texas from 1959 to 1960. He was active in Democratic politics and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1960.

Ray was a prominent member of the community and devoted his professional and personal talents to a variety of civic organizations. He served as chairman of the Bonham United Fund and was active in bringing new industry to Fannin County through his service as president of Bonham Industrial Foundation for 10 years. Ray was an honorary life sponsor of the Fannin County Historical Society and was past president and member of the Bonham Chamber of Commerce, Texas Pecan Growers Association and Texas Horticulture Society. He also was a member of the Bonham Rotary Club and the Masonic Lodge. Ray served as president and chairman of the board of directors of Fannin Bank and chairman of the board of First National Bank.

Ray was selected for membership in Phi Beta Kappa, Phi gamma Delta and Phi Alpha Delta and was named to Who's Who in the South and Southwest in 1993. He was a member of the First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, where funeral services were held.

He is survived by his wife, R'Cella Dean Peeler, son and daughter-in-law William Bryan Peeler and Amy Peeler of Bonham, daughter and son-in-law Maribel Peeler Griffon and Mark Griffon of Friendswood; stepchildren, Cressie Renfrow Todd and Larry Renfrow; sister Virginia Cothran of Forth Worth; and several grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, it is a privilege for me to pay my last respects to a man who gave so much of himself to his profession, his community, and his country—Ray Peeler. He will be missed by all those who knew him and who loved him, and I am honored to have been his friend.